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## SCIENTISTS AND THE FOOD SUPPLY.

It begins to look as if the human race will have little left to eat by the time the scientists get through investigating the food question. For instance, there is the great Russian biologist, Prof. Ilie Metchnikoff, who has written a book on how to live healthfully and grow to the ripe age of 130 years, which age every man should attain, he asserts, says that the only way to eat grapes is to boil them and extract all the pits. "Eating grapes is suicidal," he says, "and to give them to a child is a crime." Billions of the most deadly microbes swarm over the grape skins, states the great scientist. He also solemnly warns against apples, peaches, apricots, plums and cherries, the skins of all of which harbor dread diseases. Then Bishop Fallows of Chicago opposes nearly everything that men have hitherto found good for food, and avers that if every child was scientifically fed "there would be no more moral baseness, no mental depravity, no spiritual ignorance."

Prof. Boyd Laynard of London expressly stipulates the following articles of food which one must "cut out" to be healthful: Apples, apricots, bananas, blackberries, cherries, oranges, peaches, pears, plums, almonds and coconuts, chicken, veal, turkey, duck, rabbit, grouse, pigeon, hare, partridge, coffee, tea, spirits, cream, veal, venison, ham, pork in all forms, sausages, suet, tripe and codfish, highly spiced cake, pastry, ices, muffins, omelets, puddings, chocolate, cider and liquors.

In connection with the foregoing statements it is interesting to note that What to Eat, a magazine which seeks to give proper information concerning the subject suggested in its title, comes forward with the declaration that "there is but one sure cure for the drinking disease or habit, and that is the simplest of all. The cure consists in eating fruits. That will cure the worst case of inebriety that ever afflicted a person. It will entirely destroy the taste for intoxicants and will make the drunkard return to the thoughts and tastes of his childhood, when he loved the luxuries nature had provided for him and when his appetite had not become contaminated by false, cultivated tastes and attendant false desires and imaginary pleasures."

Which goes to show that our contemporary does not agree with the theories of the various food faddists or else is advocating suicide as the only sure cure for drunkenness.

## AS TO THE DISGRACED NEGRO BATTALION.

The New York Evening Post is disposed to severely criticize President Roosevelt for dismissing in disgrace a battalion of the negro troops because some of its members were involved in the Brownsville (Tex.) riot. Our contemporary says:

The country has not forgotten that the companies now marked out for punishment fought most valiantly at

Santiago. A private of one of them, together with one of Company H, captured the Spanish flag upon the stone fort at Caney, where the regiment was led by an admirable officer, Lieut. Col. (now General) A. S. Dagbert. That his regiment behaved as well as any in the army is a matter of official record. The colored soldiers, as a whole, are far more loyal to the colors, far less given to desertion and much more temperate than their white comrades. They will inquire whether something can not be done to protect colored soldiers from the insults to which the Twenty-fifth was prejudiced. \* \* \* To our mind, Mr. Roosevelt has established a most pernicious precedent, besides doing a grave wrong to many innocent servants of the country."

The question is one of the discipline and not of military prowess. While we may feel a certain sort of admiration for the innocent soldiers who refuse to testify against guilty comrades, it is quite apparent that men who would permit such a sacrifice are unworthy of it. Nor should it be forgotten that a single act may wipe out a lifelong record of bravery, honesty and integrity. We are not discussing the ethics of the world's punishment for a single lapse from the strait and narrow path, but it is not difficult to imagine the conditions which would follow if the riotous conduct of the negro troops in Texas were passed over without punishment at all. Since they choose to stand together it was inevitable that the administration should decide that they should fall together.

## HOPE FOR REFORM.

While the straight Republican ticket won in Pennsylvania in the recent elections, those who favored the fusion candidates and the platform on which they stood have not given up all hope of reforms which they regard as desirable in the administration of the Keystone State government. For instance, the Philadelphia North American, which vigorously opposed the straight ticket, says:

"The Republican platform, in its provisions and its unequivocal pledges, was a wholly admirable party declaration. And upon it stood men in whom Republicans could justly place their confidence. Moreover, the pledges are of the greater value because they were made by the party which was in power and is certain to remain the dominant political factor in Pennsylvania. Therefore, we refuse to admit that the defeat of the fusionists ended the hope of real reform. The successful party and its candidates are as firmly pledged to practical reforms as were their opponents. The great victory of protest in 1905 accomplished lasting good, in that it dictated the Republican pledges of 1906, and compelled the selection of clean, able candidates. With the Republican party committed, as it is, to this program of constructive legislation, no man can say that the fight was vain or that the future is dark."

While it is not always safe to trust the pledges and platform promises of any party after the people have endorsed the candidates at the polls, the outlook certainly becomes more promising when the opposition makes a fight which shows that the voters stand ready to repudiate the party which forgets its duty to the people.

We have no doubt at all that the remarkable showing made by Hearst and the success of the balance of the Democratic ticket in New York State will make the G. O. P. in that Commonwealth very circumspect for the next few years and will impress upon Governor Hughes the necessity of giving the people a clean and honest administration.

The negro troopers who have been dismissed from the regular army cannot mend matters by going on a rampage and shooting down people who had nothing to do with their rowdiness or their subsequent disgrace. By living honest, sober upright lives they may in time wipe out the dishonor.

Now that there is no coal strike in progress we are awaiting with interest the plausible story which will be told shortly to account for the regular increase in the price of coal. Probably it will be the car shortage this year.

Reform ideas are spreading in China according to information furnished by a missionary. So long as the reform ideas are not taught to shoot straight the situation may not be entirely lost.

Wherever the voting machine was tested in the recent election reports of their satisfactory operation have been made. The declaration that they would mystify the voter and prevent scratching has been shown to be erroneous. In fact, it has been demonstrated that the average man takes more kindly to handling a lever than to manipulating a pen, and where the machine was used the vote was heavy,

the indications of independent voting was marked and the result was known in a few minutes after the polls were closed.

Now if Tom Platt should really resign from the United States Senate he would be setting a good example for that eminent after dinner orator Chauncey Depew.

Another boy is dead from injuries received in a football game, yet the friends of the great college sport say it is not brutal.

The Washington Post says that buzzards have made their home in the capitol dome. According to common report there are a number of vultures in the Senate and House.

The cry has gone up in Chicago for a larger standing army. According to recruiting officers the government can not get enough men to fill the regiments all ready in service.

Congressman Wadsworth, of New York, blames his defeat upon the President. He forgets the voters.

If there should happen to be an earthquake down on the Isthmus while Roosevelt is there he will be blamed for stirring up the elements.

If the Cubans persist in the "dog in the manger" policy they are said to be pursuing, Uncle Sam may have to use the big stick in earnest.

It cost Hearst just a little more than a quarter of a million dollars, but think of the fun he had out of the campaign.

Carnegie's high notes were not sufficient bond when he was arrested in New York on the charge of insulting a woman.

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## The Artful Squirrel.

You may find many a squirrel in the course of your tramp, but no two alike exactly in their method of attempted means of escape or concealment. The ways and means of the little rascals are legion. One may flatten himself against a gray patch on the back of a tree trunk, absolutely motionless, and unless in your earnest, steadfast looking you can detect an ear or a shoulder in relief against the sky you might as well abandon search. Another may lie along a bough flattened at full length, but here the telltale ears are more easily silhouetted. Still another may crouch down up in a fork, and here the thing to look for is the tuft tip of that little signal flag which always works and waves and jerks and signals so bravely when danger is not in the air, or one may gather himself up in a bunch to imitate a knot or knob, and here he can very well tell when you have spied him out. He will catch your eye, even as you catch the eye of an acquaintance in a crowd and will instantly lumber up for headlong flight, leaping from tree to tree till he vanishes over the ridge.—Field and Stream.

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